

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1409

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USNMR SHAPE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0027

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: FEBRUARY 5 EASTERN PLENARY
STATEMENT

1. AT THE NINETY-SECOND PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR
NEGOTIATIONS, CHAIRED BY CANADIAN REP (GRANDE), THE ONLY
STATEMENT WAS DELIVERED BY CZECHOSLOVAK REP (LAHODA).
THE WESTERN NUCLEAR OFFER WAS MENTIONED - AS A FIRST,
BUT INSUFFICIENT STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION - ONLY
BRIEFLY AT THE END OF LAHODA'S PRESENTATION, THE MAIN
POINTS OF WHICH WERE:

A. THE MAJOR TASK IN POST-CSCE EUROPE IS TO
EXTEND POLITICAL DETENTE TO THE MILITARY FIELD.

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B. THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ARE AWARE OF THE

ATTEMPTS OF SOME TO COMPLICATE THE PROCESS OF
DETENTE.

C. THE CONTINUATION OF THE ARMS RACE IS
EVIDENCE OF SUCH ATTEMPTS.

D. CONCRETE RESULTS, LEADING TO A MUTUALLY
ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT, CAN BE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR IN
THE VIENNA TALKS.

E. THE CRITERIA FOR REACHING THE AGREED GOALS
OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS UNDERLY THE COMPLEX OF PROPOSALS
TABLED BY THE EAST.

F. TO ATTAIN THOSE GOALS, ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS
MUST FULLY RESPECT AND APPLY THE AGREED PRINCIPLES.

G. ANY REDUCTIONS AGREEMENT SHOULD CARRY PRECISE,
EQUAL AND MUTUAL COMMITMENTS FOR ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS
SO THAT EACH WILL KNOW CLEARLY THE OBLIGATIONS THE
OTHERS ARE READY TO ASSUME, AND IN WHAT SEQUENCE.

H. THE UNWILLINGNESS OF MOST WESTERN PARTICIPANTS
TO UNDERTAKE ON A BASIS OF MUTUALITY IDENTICAL AND EQUAL
REDUCTION COMMITMENTS FROM THE OUTSET IS A MAJOR OBSTACLE
TO PROGRESS.

I. IN CONTRAST, ALL THE SOCIALIST DIRECT PARTICIPANTS
HAVE STATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT PRECISE COMMITMENTS
FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE REDUCTIONS PROCESS.

J. ANY AGREEMENT MUST BE BASED ON EQUALITY AND
UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR EACH STATE -- IT SHOULD
NOT ALTER THE EXISTING FORCE RELATIONSHIP IN EUROPE
OR PROVIDE UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES.

K. THE WESTERN CONCEPT OF "COLLECTIVE CEILINGS"
CONTRADICTS THE AIMS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND ONLY
COMPLICATES THEM.

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L. EQUAL REDUCTION COMMITMENTS REQUIRE
THAT ALL TYPES OF FORCES BE COVERED, A FACT WHICH THE
WEST SEEMS AT LEAST TO BE BEGINNING TO REALIZE.

M. WHILE STILL WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE OLD,
UNACCEPTABLE WESTERN SCHEME, THE WEST'S DECEMBER 16
NUCLEAR PROPOSAL IS A FIRST THOUGH INSUFFICIENT STEP IN
THE RIGHT DIRECTION IN THAT IT BRINGS NUCLEAR ELEMENTS

INTO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

N. IT IS HOPED THAT WESTERN PARTICIPANTS WILL
FULLY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OBJECTIVE EASTERN COMMENTS
CONCERNING THEIR APPROACH TO REDUCTIONS.

2. THE FULL TEXT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATEMENT IS BEING
SENT BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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